



# The Fortress '55

J. WILLIAM MARKER



Mr. Marker.

you're one character  
I'll never forget. you  
have always been help  
in time of trouble. I  
hope you will always  
remember me for my  
good characteristics (if you  
can think of any).

A class menace of '55  
Laurie Lee

Mr. Marker,  
you're always  
even more than a teacher  
to me, in spite of the  
warmings and balling-out  
I rec'd; I deserved them  
with them. I wish the very best  
to you and "Suzie" and ...  
in the future.  
another hoodlum  
should A.

Mr. Marker.

you have been an inspiration to me  
during my school years and I can't express  
in words the help you have been to me.

Remember that big staff meeting the  
Sunday we packaged up our first copy  
shipment of the Fortress?

I have always looked forward to your  
classes (except the time we had those  
reports in office practice).

I'll forgive you for all the pranks you  
played on me concerning the yearbook, if  
you'll forgive me for all the times I  
have bothered you - asking about this or  
that.

Take good care of that new car!

One of your hoodlums,  
Barbara S.



Mr. Marker,

Good luck in the future years with your new car and "Suzie". I always enjoy your classes except when we have semester tests.

A dumb sophomore,  
Wanda Saville

Bill,  
I am going to miss you next year, not going down Etolls every evening for coffee. I want to thank you for all the help and guidance you have given me.  
"Bill"

Mr. Marker,

I have enjoyed being in your class very much this year. I hope that you and "Suzie" will be married by this time next year.  
Good Luck.

Betty Wagone

Bill

Good luck to a nice guy.  
It has been a lot of fun working in the office. Thanks a lot for everything. Take it easy with that new car. Don't get too many wild women in the car.

A friend always  
Joe Dwin

Bill:

Good luck in the future to a heck of a nice guy. You won't have to ride me next year, because I'm going to dig down and study ch. hope. Don't pick up too many "women" with that new oldie. Better get on the ball with Suzie, or I will beat you to it-Haha.

A dumb-a-

Jerry A.  
Pete



Mr. Marker

I will never forget  
you, as one of my teachers,  
the ways you have helped  
me out.

I have always looked  
forward to your classes.

Take good care of  
yourself and of that car.

Love always

was Annis  
did 55  
over last like you  
we still like you

ups

Mr. Marker

Graduation  
is the saddest  
time of the year  
for seniors. I  
know without  
your help & a  
encouragement I  
would never have  
made a senior. The  
yearbook you helped  
me with is really  
a success. So now  
I would like the  
opportunity to thank  
you for everything.

As Always  
Etta Mae

Marker,  
will never  
forget  
you as one  
best teachers  
never  
ing class the  
fun us. But  
it was for  
lots of Luck  
Subara



FORT ASHBY  
SCHOOL



# *The Fortress*

*Presented by . . .*



*... The Senior Class of 1955  
Fort Ashby High School  
Fort Ashby, West Virginia*





# Foreword



*Editor, BARBARA DAYTON*  
*Assistant Editor, ARTHUR DAYTON*

To the students, teachers, alumni, and friends of Fort Ashby High School, we present THE FORTRESS of 1955.

We hope in looking through its 78 pages some fond memories of 1954-55 will come back to you.

THE FORTRESS STAFF

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# Dedication

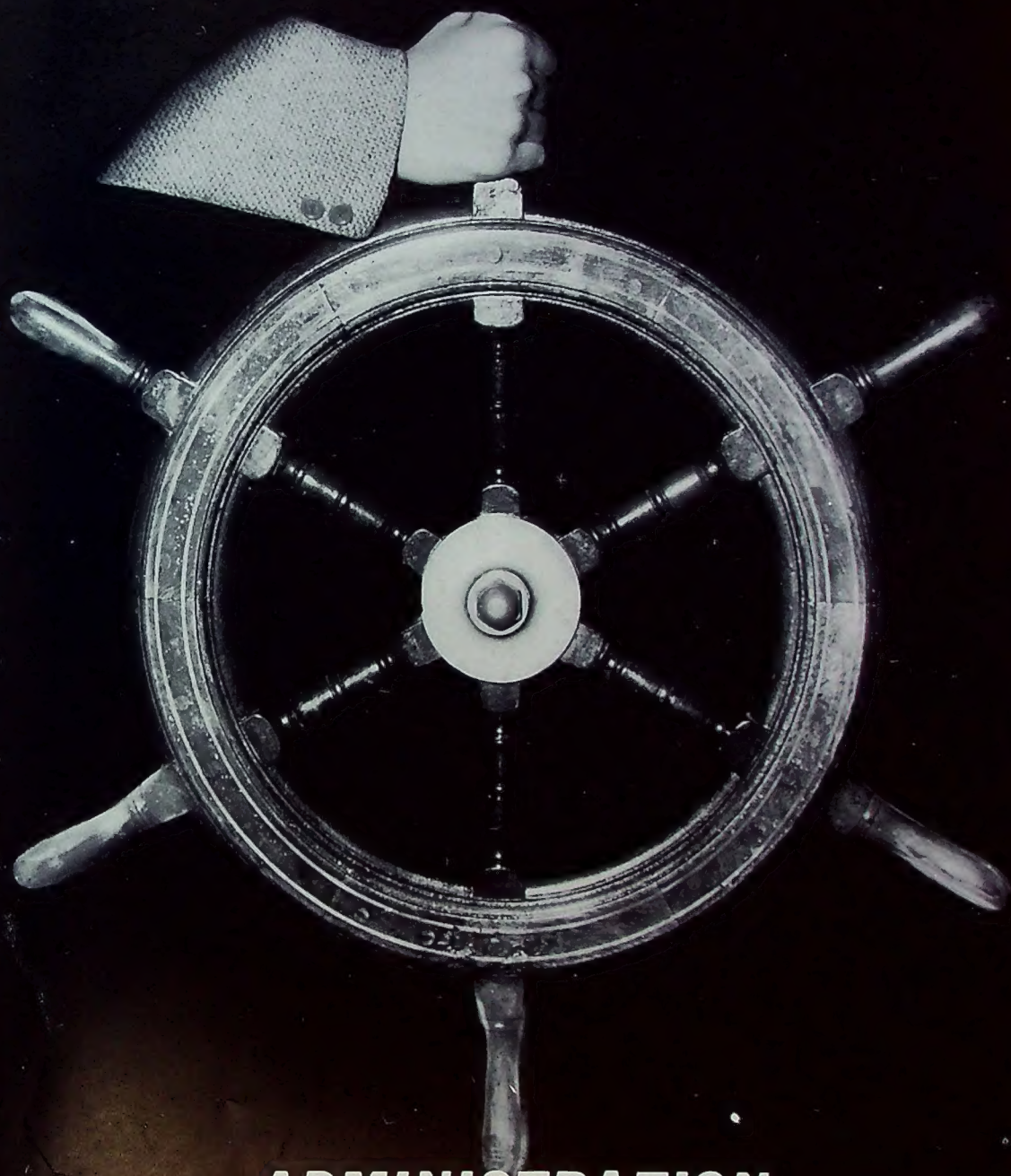


*Because we are grateful to you for . . .*

A — lways helping us go forward,  
L — ending us a helping hand,  
B — eing there when we needed you,  
E — ndeavoring to guide us,  
R — eally having a genuine interest in our class,  
T — elling us to stop and think before we jumped,  
L — etting us lean on you, when we needed a leaning post,  
R — eminding us of memories we have enjoyed in our four years together,  
O — verflowing faith in the class of '55,  
G — iving your time generously to our projects,  
E — ncouragement when we were depressed,  
R — ewarding us, when often we didn't deserve a reward,  
S — omehow, making us believe in ourselves,

We, the Class of 1955, dedicate to you . . .  
Mr. Rogers, our FORTRESS.





**ADMINISTRATION**



## Superintendent and Assistants

Mr. H. L. Idleman has been Mineral County Superintendent of Schools for the last fourteen years. In 1941, he started the twelve year program with reorganizing only High School graduation. He also eliminated all one room schools, all outside toilets, and installed modern heating equipment in all schools. He was fully qualified with a Superintendent's Certificate when he entered office.

This year he was selected for *Who's Who In The East* by the Marquis National Biographe.



H. L. IDLEMAN

To right: Miss Georgianna Kelley, Financial Secretary; Miss Jeanette McGuffie, General Supervisor; and Mrs. Lavada Fanto.

Miss Kelley graduated from West Virginia University with a B. S. degree in 1944, and has been Financial Secretary of Mineral County Schools since July, 1947.

Miss McGuffie received her M. A. degree from West Virginia University in 1936, and has been the General Supervisor since 1947. Her duties are county-wide, and include consulting with principals with respect to their programs, helping any teacher who requests help, attend and participate in P. T. A. programs, and carry good teaching techniques from one school to another.

Mrs. Lavada Fanto has been Mineral County Schools' Secretary since March, 1954.

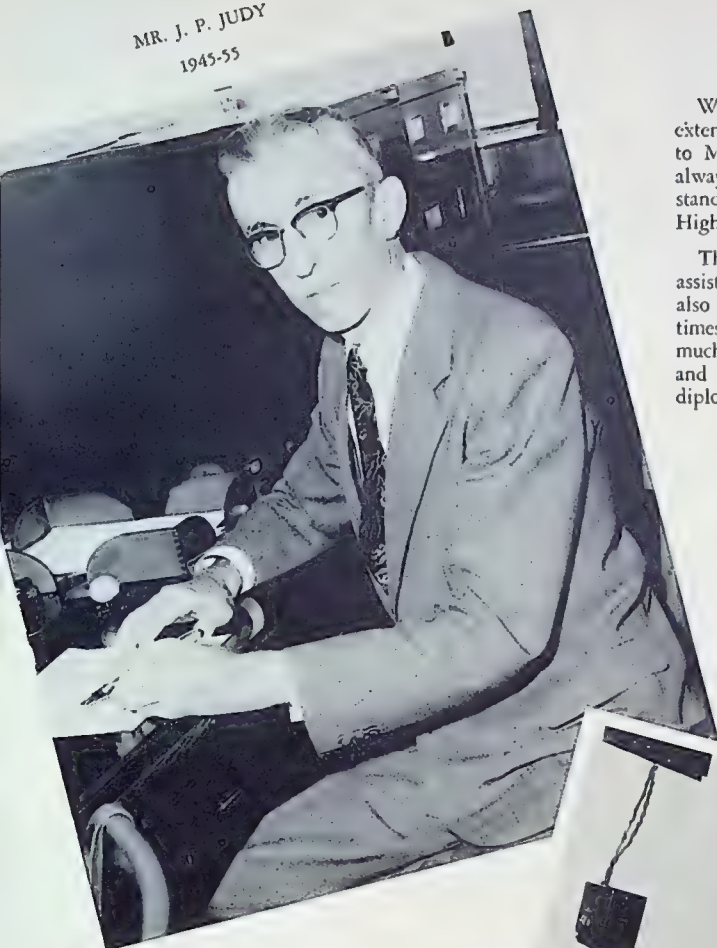


Shown here are the officers of the Fort Ashby Parent-Teachers Association, left to right: Mrs. William Rosskamp, Secretary; Mr. Andrew Rotruck, President; and Mrs. Edgell Pyles, Treasurer.

The P. T. A. sponsored a Minstrel on November 12, 1954, to raise money for their activities of this year. Participating in the minstrel were the members of the faculty and the parents. They also held a baked ham supper and rummage sale to raise money.



MR. J. P. JUDY  
1945-55

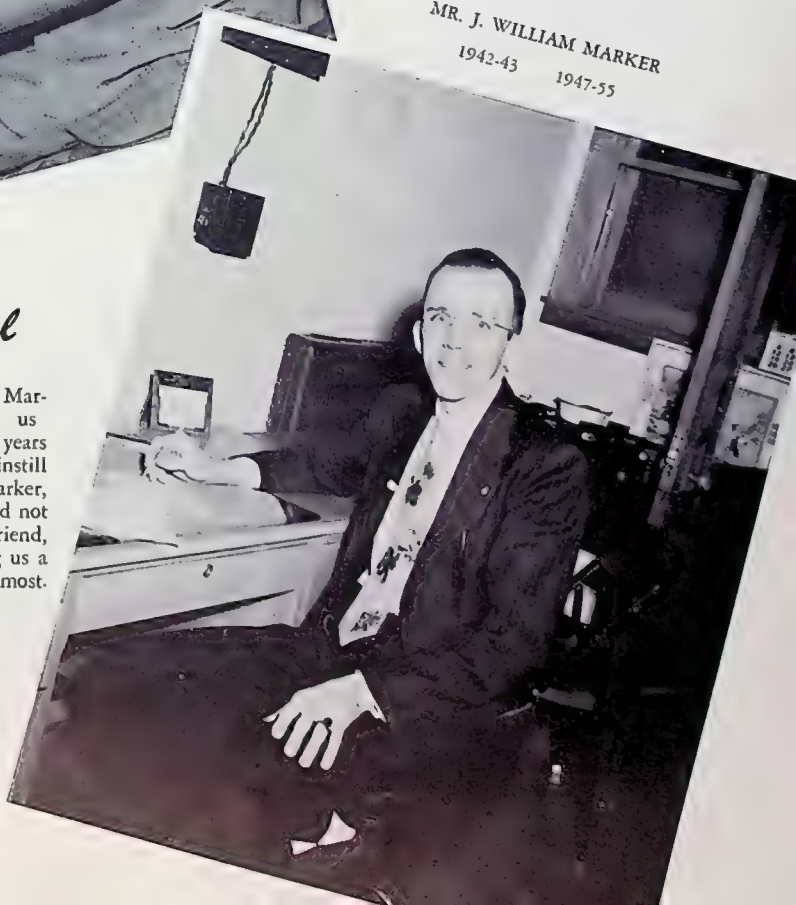


## *Principal*

We, the Senior Class of 1955, wish to extend our sincere appreciation and thanks to Mr. J. P. Judy, our principal, who has always offered his cooperation and understanding during our years at Fort Ashby High.

This year, in addition to giving us his assistance by being our principal, Mr. Judy also taught the senior economics class. Sometimes he was afraid we weren't learning much, but we all passed with flying colors, and on graduation day he handed us our diplomas.

MR. J. WILLIAM MARKER  
1942-43 1947-55



## *Vice-Principal*

During our high school years, Mr. Marker, assistant principal, has helped us through our times of trial. With his years of experience as a guide, he tried to instill some wisdom into us. Without Mr. Marker, many members of the senior class would not be seniors today. He has been a true friend, and we want to thank him for lending us a helping hand when we needed it the most.



## Faculty

MR. ALBERT L. ROGERS

1950-55  
Instructor of English; A.B. English, W. Va. Wesleyan, 24; M.A., W.V.U., 31.

MRS. LAURA MARKS

1943-55  
Instructor of Mathematics; A.B. Mathematics, Home Economics, Salem College, 26.

MR. VIRGIL U. HULL

1953-55  
Instructor of Social Science and French; B.S. Social Science and French, W.V.U.

MR. MELVIN N. McKENZIE

1953-55  
Instructor of Social Science and English; B.S., Social Science and English, W.V.U., 53.

MR. LAWRENCE O. FOUT

1953-55  
Instructor of Vocational Agriculture and Shop; B.S., Vocational Agriculture and Biology, W.V.U., 52.

MRS. LOIS McMILLION

1953-55  
Instructor of Home Economics and Biology; A.B., Vocational Home Economics and Biology, Marshall College, 51.

MR. K. B. KEPLINGER

1947-55  
Instructor of Physical Science; A.B., Physical Science, Social Science, Shepherd College, 47; M.A., W.V.U., 51.

MR. QUENTIN SAYERS

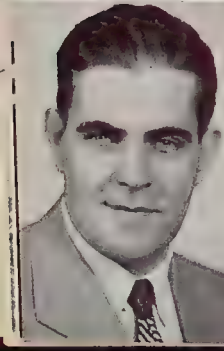
1954-55  
Instructor of Social Science, Physical Education and Drivers Education; A.B., Physical Education and Social Studies, Shepherd College 50; M.A., W.V.U., 54.

MR. THOMAS M. SMALL

1953-55  
Instructor of Drivers Education for Mineral County Schools; B.S., Mathematics, Social Science, W.V.U., 38; M.A., W.V.U., 51.

MRS. GRACE LUCAS

1954-55  
Instructor of Journalism, English, and Librarian; B.S., English, Public Speaking, W.V.U., 42.

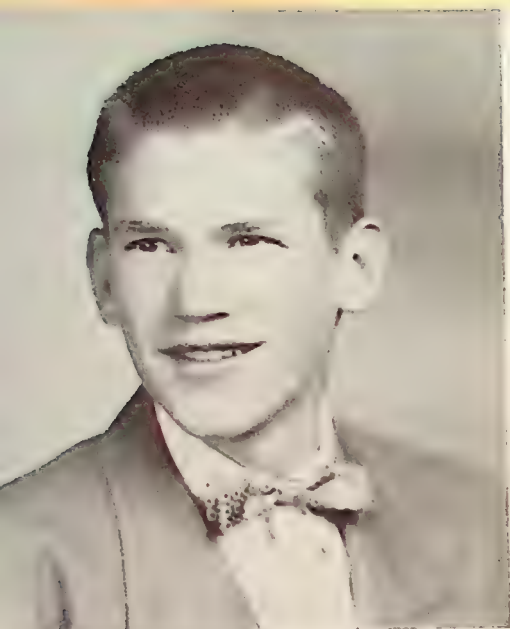






**SENIORS**





CHARLES VAUGHN ALT  
"Von"

*Compliments are only lies in court clothes.*

Minstrel 1, 3; Basketball 2, 3, 4; Flashbrian Staff 3;  
Basketball Escort 4; Class Play 3, 4.

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WANDA JEANETTE BOHRER  
"Powerhouse"

*We never love heartily but once and that is the first time we love.*

Autumn Ball Candidate 2; Student Council 3; FHA Officer 4; Class Play 3, 4; Minstrel 1, 2, 3; Scorekeeper 4

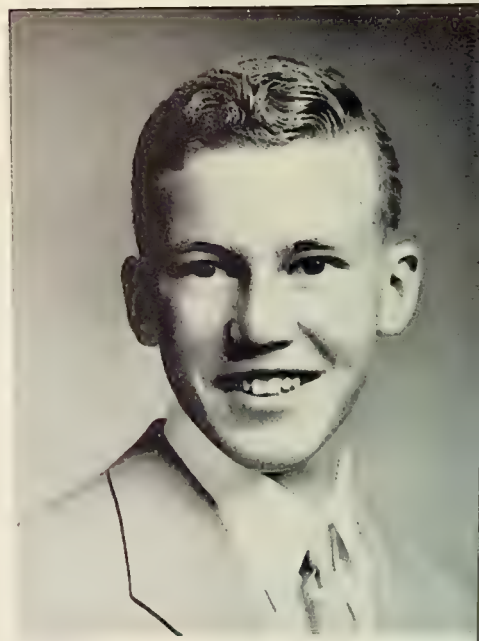
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WILLIAM WAYNE BOHRER  
"Skinner"

*There is but one good throw upon the dice and that is to throw them away.*

Basketball 1, 2, 3, 4; FFA Officer 3, 4; Baseball 2; Minstrel 1, 2, 3; Fortress Staff 4; Class Treasurer 4.

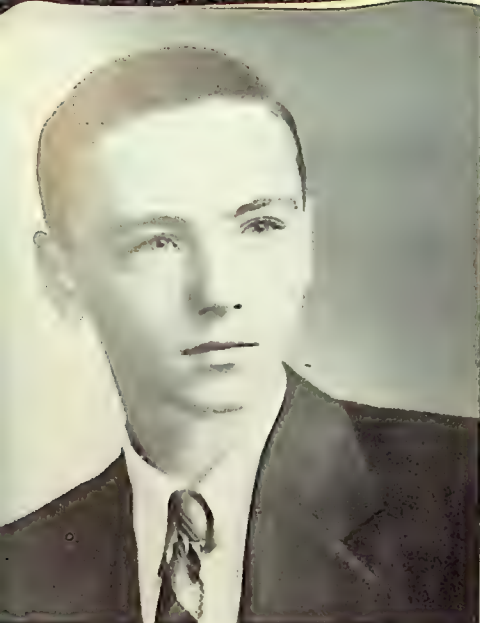


BRUCE H. BOSLEY, JR.  
"Jackie"

*Women always have some mental reservation.*

Minstrel 2, 3; Basketball 1, 2; Activity Period 1,





HARRY ALLEN BOSLEY  
"Amon"

*A nickname is the hardest stone the devil can throw at a man.*

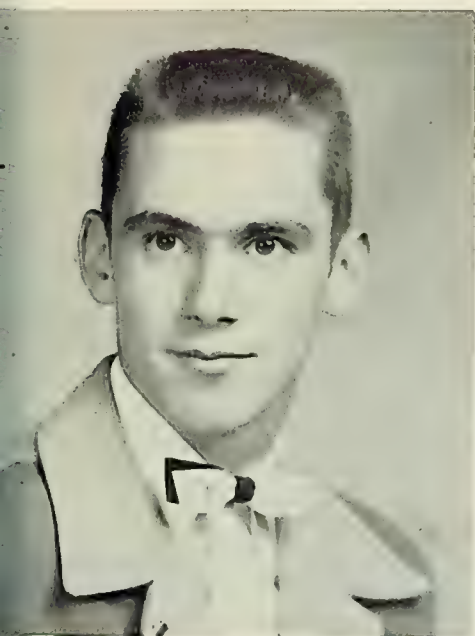
Minstrel 1, 2, 3, 4; Class Play 3, 4; FFA Officer 3, 4; Class Officer 3, 4; Basketball 1, 3, 4; Student Council 2.



LOREN WILLIAM BOSLEY  
"Loren"

*A lucky man is rarer than a white crow.*

FFA Officer 3, 4.



ARTHUR DALE DAYTON  
"Artie"

*Happy Wanderer*

Student Council 1, 4; Basketball 1, 2, 3, 4; Baseball 1, 2; Fortress Staff 4; Class Play 3, 4; Minstrel 1, 2, 3, 4.

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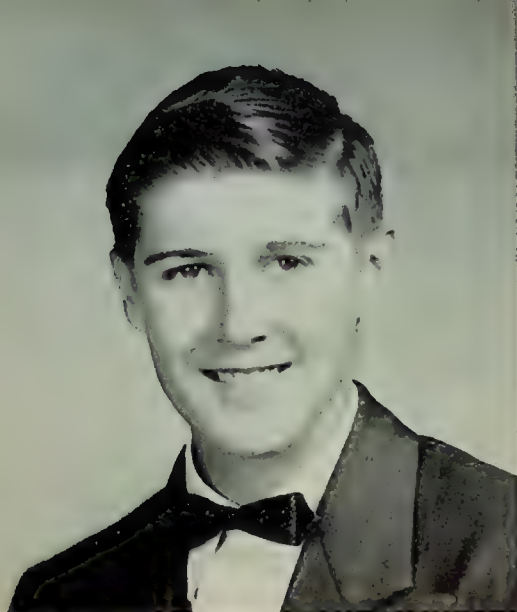


BARARA ELLEN DAYTON  
"Babs"

*Hope for the best, but prepare for the worst.*

Student Council 1, 3, 4; Class Secretary 2, 3, 4; Falashbian Staff 3; Fortress Staff 4; Class Play 3; Minstrel 1, 2, 3.

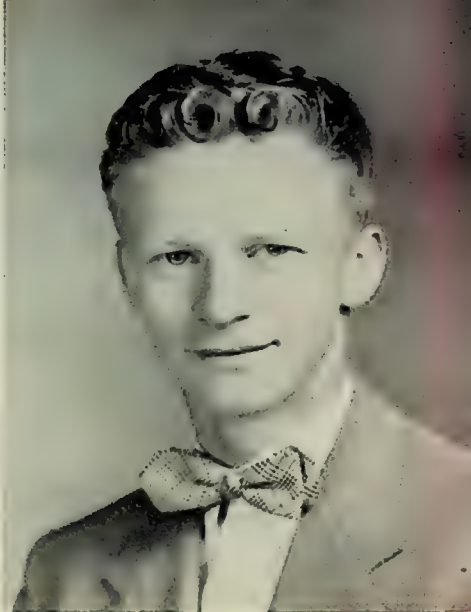




ROBERT LYNN FOSTER  
"Frostie"

*Lost people would succeed in small things if they  
are not troubled with great ambitions.*

FA Officer 3, 4; Athletics 1, 2, 3, 4; Minstrel 1,  
2, 3; Class Play 3, 4; Fortress Staff 4; Operetta 3.



HAROLD LEE HAINES  
"Buddy"

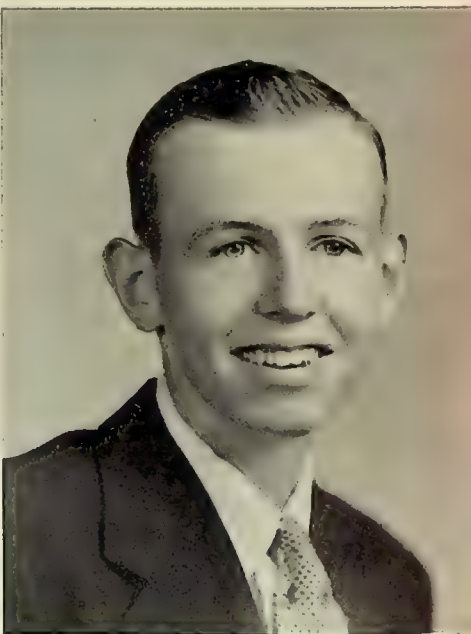
*He who has lost confidence can lose nothing more.*  
Basketball 1, 2, 3, 4; Student Council 3; Baseball 1,  
2; Minstrel 1, 2, 3; Fortress Staff 4; Class Officer 3.



DOROTHY IMOGENE HERSHBERGER  
"Imie"

*Keep your chin up instead of your nose and you will  
go far.*

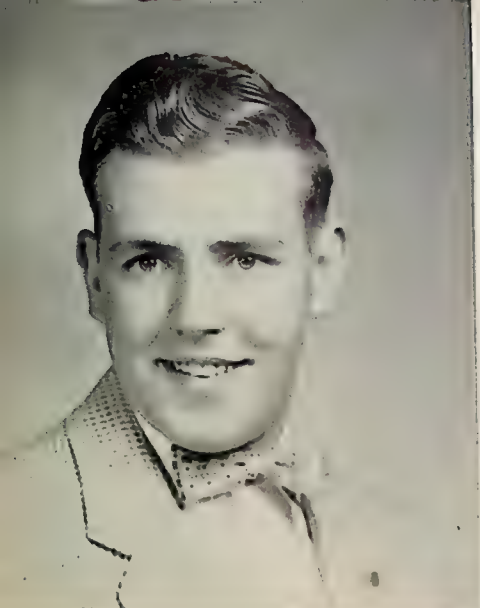
Cheerleader 1, 2, 3, 4; Autumn Ball Candidate 3;  
Minstrel 1, 3; Miss Pep 3; Fortress Staff 4; Basket-  
ball Queen 4.



TRUMAN LEE HOUSEHOLDER  
"Truman"

*The longer one lives the more he learns.*  
Operetta 2; Minstrel 3; Class Play 3.





JOHN ROBERT KENNEY  
"Chickie"

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*Your name hangs in my heart like a bell's tongue.*

Basketball 1, 2, 3, 4; Baseball 2; Class Play 3, 4;  
Fortress Staff 4; Autumn Ball Escort 3; Minstrel 1,  
2, 3, 4; Operetta 1, 3.



BETTY LEE LEWIS  
"Bubbles"

*Whatever is right I will give you.*

Minstrel 2; Dancing Club 3; Librarian 3; Falash-  
bian Staff 3; FHA Club 3; Glee Club 3.



LAURETTA LEAH MCTAGGART  
"Lee"

*A handful of patience is worth more than a bushel  
of brains.*

Class Officer 1, 2; Falashbian Staff 3; Minstrel 1,  
2, 3; Operetta 2, 3; Scorekeeper 4; Class Play 4.



SHIRLEY ANN MCTAGGART  
"Shirl"

*Nothing can be accomplished without the ability to  
work for it.*

Glee Club 1, 2, 3; Craft Club 2; Librarian 2; Min-  
strel 1; Operetta 2.

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ARLENE LOUISE O'BRIEN

"Rosie"

*As we advance in life, we learn the limits of our abilities.*

Minstrel 3; Operetta 2; Craft Club 3; Glee Club 1, 2, 3.



DELORES JEAN PRICE

"Jeanie"

*As for me, all I know is that I know nothing.*

Glee Club 1, 2, 3, 4; Dancing Club 1; School Improvement 3; Minstrel 1, 3; Class Play 3, 4.

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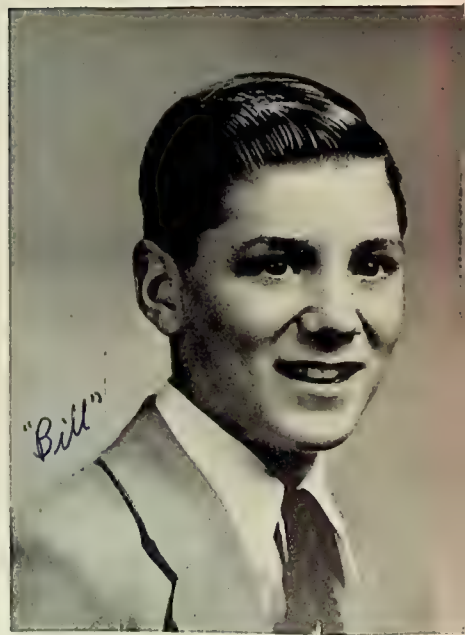


MARY JANE RILEY

"Ed"

*No one ever became thoroughly bad all at once.*

Minstrel 1; Operetta 2; Glee Club 1, 2, 3; School Improvement 3; Dancing Club 2.



WILLIAM MILTON ROOT

"Bill"

*When Faith is lost, and honor dies, the man is dead.*  
Basketball 1, 2, 3, 4; Class Play 3, 4; Minstrel 1, 3; Student Council 1.





PATRICIA CLAIRE ROSSKAMP

"Pat"

*Men say of women what pleases them; women do with men what pleases them.*

Cheerleader 1, 3, 4; FHA 3, 4; Class President 1, 3; Class Play 3, 4; Falashbian Staff 3; Minstrel 1, 2, 3.



DOROTHY EVELYN SAMPSON

"Dot"

*It takes brains to think.*

Craft Club 3; Glee Club 3.



ETTA MAE SINGHASS

"Ettie"

*Love's like the measles, all the worse if it comes late in life.*

Student Council 4; Minstrel 1, 2, 3; Class Reporter 4, 4; Operetta 3; FHA Club 3, 4; Fortress Staff 4.



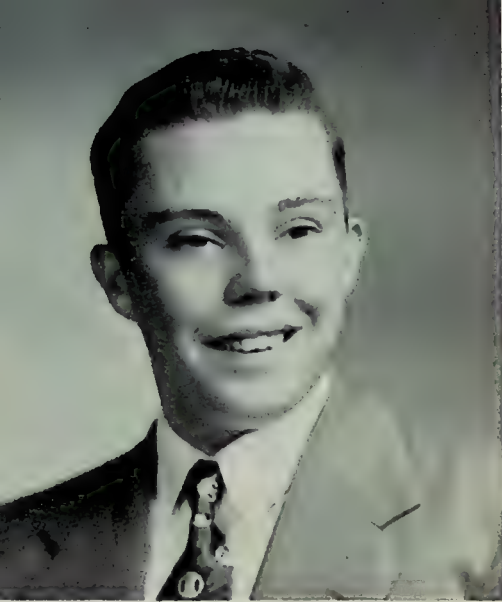
MARY ELLEN SNYDER

"Mary Ellen"

*Blushing is the color of virtue.*

Glee Club 2, 3; Dancing Club 3; FHA Club 4; Falashbian Staff 3.

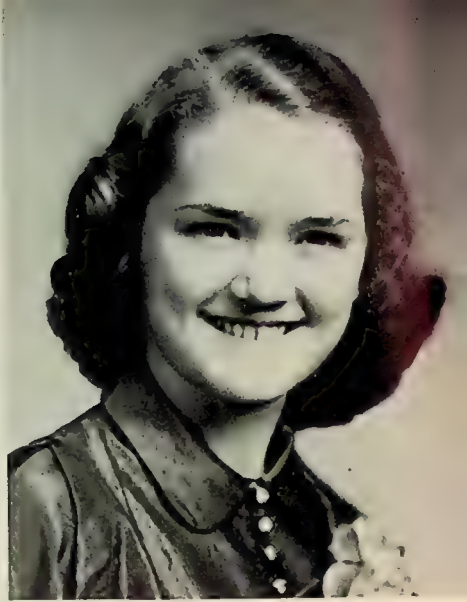




GARY ALLEN SOMMERLOTT  
"Alliwishes"

*All that you do, do with your might; things half  
done are never done right.*

Operetta 1, 2, 3; Class Play 3, 4; Music 1, 2.



BONNIE BELLE THOMPSON  
"Cookie"

*The shortest pleasures are the sweetest.*

Operetta 2; Glee Club 2, 3; Craft Club 3; FHA  
Club 4.



JANNIS CORNELIA TIMBROOK  
"Jan"

*The longest way around is the shortest way home.*

Class Play 3; Pep Club 3; Minstrel 1, 2, 3; FHA  
Club 3, 4; French Club 3; Crocheting Club 1.

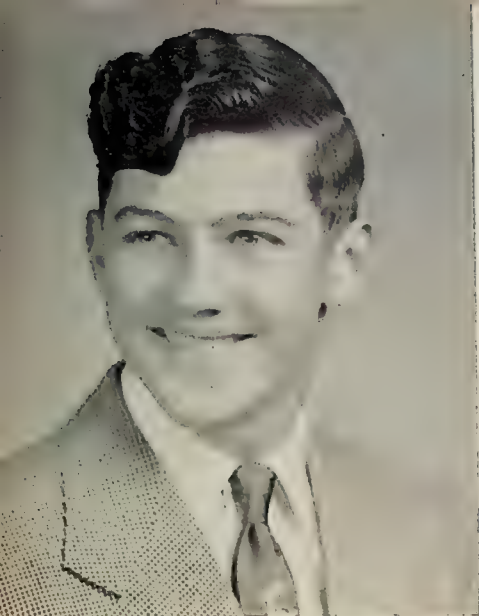


DOROTHEA JEAN TWIGG  
"Dottie"

*We expect everything and are prepared for nothing.*

Minstrel 3; Operetta 2; Craft Club 3; Glee Club  
1, 2, 3.





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FLOYD NELSON UMSTOT, JR.  
"Junior"

*The doorstep to the temple of wisdom is a knowledge of our own ignorance.*

Basketball 1; Minstrel 1; Autumn Ball Escort 4.



LENORA KATHERINE UMSTOT  
"Len"

*You must look into people as well as at them.*

Librarian 2; Craft Club 3; Glee Club 1, 2.



BLANCHE LORRAINE WELKER  
"Lorraine"

*Youth comes but once in a lifetime.*

Glee Club 1, 2, 3; Class Play 3; Craft Club 3; Minstrel 3.



MERLA IRENE WHITACRE  
"Crackers"

*What isn't worth working for isn't worth having.*

Minstrel 3; Operetta 3; Falashbian Staff 3; Librarian 3; Dancing Club 3; Glee Club 3.





Jitterbugging in this scene are Wanda Bohrer and Robert Foster. Looking very astonished at these antics are Bill Root and Lorraine Welker.

"Howdy" says Lauretta McTaggart, as she is introduced to Harry Bosley and Harold Haines, (far right) by Wayne Bohrer, (center)

## "Finders Creepers"

Presented November 19, 1954

### THE CAST

.....Nelson	..... Harry Bosley
Wilbur Maxwell	..... Harold Haines
Daphne	..... Lauretta McTaggart
Claude	..... Wayne Bohrer
Celeste	..... Patricia Rosskamp
Frankie	..... Imogene Hershberger
Mrs. Nelson	..... Lorraine Welker
Granny	..... Wanda Bohrer
Mr. Nelson	..... Billy Root
Henry	..... Vaughn Alt
Madeline	..... Delores Price
Mr. Shuster	..... Gary Sommerlott
Mr. Quigley	..... Robert Foster
Nina Quigley	..... Etta Mae Singhass
Dr. Brown	..... Robert Kenney

### Directors

MRS. GRACE LUCAS      MR. VIRGIL HULL

### STAGE CREW

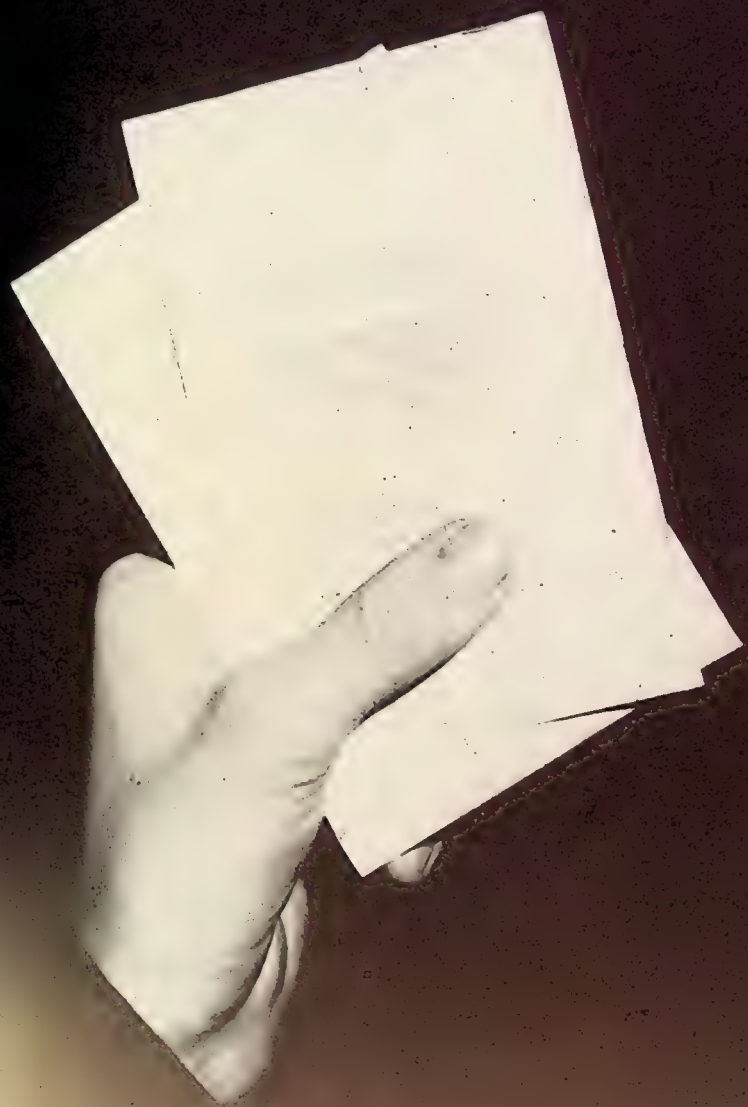
Stage Manager	..... Vaughn Alt
Lighting	..... Arthur Dayton
Sound Effects	..... Arthur Dayton
Posters	..... Bonnie Thompson
	..... Sammy Umstot, Bob Goller
Programs	..... Dorothea Twigg
	..... Delores Price, Bob Chase
Announcer	..... Arthur Dayton
Prompters	..... Mary Jane Riley
	..... Jannis Timbrook
Ushers	..... Betty Lewis
	..... Mary Ellen Snyder, Arlene O'Brien
	..... Dorothea Twigg, Merla Whitacre
Pianist	..... Shirley McTaggart
Stagehands	..... John Dale Logsdon
	..... Nelson Long, Paul Chaney
Ticket Sellers	..... Truman Householder
	..... Loren Bosley
Dresses loaned by Mrs. Beatrice Jenkins and Mrs. Margaret Snyder.	

Members of the cast as shown in the finale are, left to right: Lauretta McTaggart, Wayne Bohrer, Bill Root, Lorraine Welker, Robert Foster, Gary Sommerlott, Delores Price, Harry Bosley, Etta Mae Singhass, Patricia Rosskamp, Harold Haines.

On the floor are Imogene Hershberger, Robert Kenney and Wanda Bohrer. Absent when this picture was taken was Vaughn Alt.







**JUNIORS**



## *Juniors*

This year the Junior class had its first taste of hard work, raising money for the Junior-Senior banquet and prom. Among some of the activities they sponsored in their money-making campaign were magazine sales, the Autumn Ball, Donkey Basketball game, sale of cider to the students at noon time and the Junior Class play.

Working with the class this year as co-sponsors were Mrs. Grace Lucas and Mr. K. B. Keplinger. Without their able assistance the Juniors would not have been able to meet all the demands of their very active schedule.



Officers of the Junior Class are, left to right: President, John Hepner; Vice President, Barbara Clark; Secretary, Bob Chase; Reporter, Wilda Spencer; Treasurer, Loretta Blauch.



First row, left to right: Onalee Pretzel, Loretta Blauch, Colleen Brooke, Shirley Miner, Martha Seeders, Barbara Weaver, Julia Thompson, Bertha Barnes, Loretta O'Brien, Darlene Hiott, Shirley Kimble. Second row: Keith Martin, Nancy Baldwin, Shirley Long, Janice Welch, Shelia Speelman, Ruth Beaver, Carolyn Sampson, Barbara Clark, Marjorie Bosley, Joan Fout, Shirley Hayes, Wilda Spencer, Joe Dersin. Third row: Donald Wyer, James Lamp, Mr. Keplinger, class sponsor; Edgar Kimble, James Lark, Ronald Ward, Bob Chase, Gary Shriver, Jerry Adams, Eddie Kimble, Dean Kenney, Jim Thompson, Bernard McTaggart, John Hepner, Delbert Myers, Harold Abe.





Typing up their accounts are business manager, Sheila Speelman and her assistant, Janice Welch. Behind them are seated typists, John Hepner, Jerry Adams, Keith Martin. Standing: Martha Seeders and Bertha Barnes.

Editor-in-chief, Darlene Hiatt, and her assistant, Wilda Spencer, checking the final layout.

# Falashbian

No group is busier than the Falashbian Staff. They publish the school paper, "The Falashbian," and also write the highlights for Fort Ashby High School. This column appears weekly in the Cumberland Sunday Times.

## Falashbian Staff

Printed four times a year by the Journalism Class of Fort Ashby High School

Advisor .....	MRS. GRACE LUCAS
Editor-in-chief .....	DARLENE HIETT
Assistant Editor .....	WILDA SPENCER
News Editor .....	HAROLD ABE
Business Manager .....	SHEILA SPEELMAN
Assistant Business Manager .....	JANICE WELCH
Sports Editor .....	JAMES THOMPSON
Assistant Sports Editor .....	JERRY ADAMS
Art Editor .....	JOE DERSIN
Assistant Art Editor .....	DEAN KENNEY



Watching for the first glimpse of the Falashbian as it comes off the mimeograph machine are: news editor, Harold Abe; sports editor, Jim Thompson; assistant editor, Wilda Spencer; assistant art editor, Dean Kenney; and editor-in-chief, Darlene Hiatt.





Members of the court are, left to right: Barbara Ward and Carroll Lease, Freshmen; Wanda Saville and Leonard Brown, 10-B; Flower girls, Mary Lou Kenney and Cathy Welch; Principal, Mr. J. P. Judy crowning Carol Jean Hepner, Seventh grade, Queen Ceres V; Crown bearer, J. W. McCort; Juniors Umstot and Barbara Dayton, Seniors; John Hepner and Janice Welch, Juniors; Jerry Snyder and Darlene Blauch, 10-A; Larry Troutman and Nancy Pyles, Eighth grade. Not shown is Douglas Wolford, Seventh grade, the Queen's escort.

## *The Autumn Ball*

Junior Class sponsored the fifth annual "Autumn Ball" November 5, 1954. Miss Carol Jean Hepner, the representative from the seventh grade, was crowned "Queen Ceres V" by principal, J. P. Judy. Miss Hepner chose as her escort Douglas Wolford, also of the seventh grade. A beautiful orchid attached to the scepter was presented to the Queen by Miss Barbara Brant, last year's queen.



Pictured here as she sits upon the throne holding her scepter and wearing her crown is Queen Ceres V, Carol Jean Hepner. Standing beside her is her escort, Douglas Wolford, a seventh grader.

Announcer for the coronation was Miss Carolyn Sampson. Music was furnished by Ed and Pie's orchestra.







**CLASSES**





10-A

First row, left to right: Jackie Wagoner, Rodney Bosley, Benjamin Spencer, Martha Alt, Pat Smith, Betty Lou Wagoner, Barbara Stickley, Lucy White, Opal Abe, Evers McCoy. Second row: Mr. Quentin Sayers, homeroom teacher; Kenny Isner, Charles Baldwin, Junior Iman, Peggy Adams, Bobby Goller, Darlene Blauch, Donna Umstot, Glenn McTaggart. Third row: David McCullough, Bobby Joe Westfall, Robert Newcomer, Junior Seegers, John Dale Logsdon, Paul Chaney, Lynwood Rexrode, Nelson Long, Walter Abe, Jerry Snyder, Gordon Moore.



10-B

First row, left to right: Robert Sampson, Harold Root, Alice Fay Clark, Betty Jane Hart, Barbara Kimble, Ruth Border. Second row: Billy Dennison, Barbara Brant, Delores Davis, Shirley Bosley, Margaret Dersin, Wanda Saville, Kay Jean Milleson, Joan Dayton, Irene O'Brien, Mrs. Lois McMillion, homeroom teacher. Third row: Jerry Lease, Orvel Hart, Dick Sharpless, Jerry Logsdon, David Sutton, Tommy Cheshire, Leonard Brown, Frederick Iser.



# Sophomore Activities



Sophomores among other juniors and seniors in bookkeeping class are David McCullough, Kenney Isner, Kay Milleson, Wanda Saville, Alice Clark, Barbara Weaver, Onalee Pretzel, and Jerry Logsdon.



Alice Clark and Ruth Border are among the sophomore girls who are in Mrs. McMillion's home economics class.



Officers of the sophomore class are: President, Kay Milleson; Vice President, Darlene Blauch; Secretary, Betty Lou Wagoner; Treasurer, Jerry Lease; Reporter, William Iman.

The sophomores, under the direction of Mr. Albert Rogers, presented for the school, "The Christmas Carol."



The boys and girls are ready to leave for their hayride. They journeyed to Minco Park under sponsorship of Mr. Quentin Sayers.





# F r e s h m e n



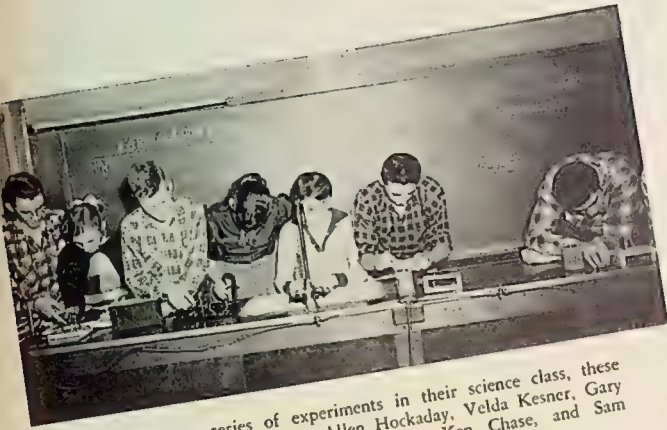
Officers of the Freshman class are, left to right: Vice President, James Boyland; President, Donald Milleson; Secretary, Gary Moore; Reporter, Eddie Linn; Treasurer, Sam Barnes.



First row, left to right: Charles Abe, Allen Hockaday, Herbert Bosley, Howard Barnes, Mike Fisher, Teddy Thompson, Danny Watts, Gary Isner, Ernest O'Brien, Gary Moore, James Boyland. Second row, left to right: Edward Arnold, Corrine Smith, Nancy Deremer, Nannie Singhass, Betty Wolfe, Velda Kesner, Mary O'Brien, Ada Lou Barnes, Judy Kimble, Lavada Hott, Patricia Brelsford. Third row: Mr. Albert Rogers, homeroom teacher, Mildred Dowden, Ruth Seeders, Linda Bauer, Barbara Ward, Kay Kenney, Serena Miner, Delores Rotruck, Betty Sutton, Mary Jane Spencer, Eleanor Riffle, Theresa Snyder, Donald Davis. Fourth row: Sammy Umstot, Tommy Riley, Kenneth Chase, Harold Lark, Donald Milleson, Harvey Oates, Carroll Lease, Jack Oates, Sam Barnes, Edward Linn.



# Freshman Capers



Performing a series of experiments in their science class, these freshmen are, left to right: Allen Hockaday, Velda Kesner, Gary Isner, Linda Bauer, Teddy Thompson, Ken Chase, and Sam Barnes.



At the Mineral County Fair this summer, Eddie Linn won a blue ribbon with his heifer "Lu Lu Belle."



Jay Boyland, Freshman, shown in shop class.



Freshman girls working on bed dolls in Home Ec.

Freshmen gave Lincoln and Washington Day Assembly under direction of Mr. Melvin McKenzie.







## *Eighth Grade*

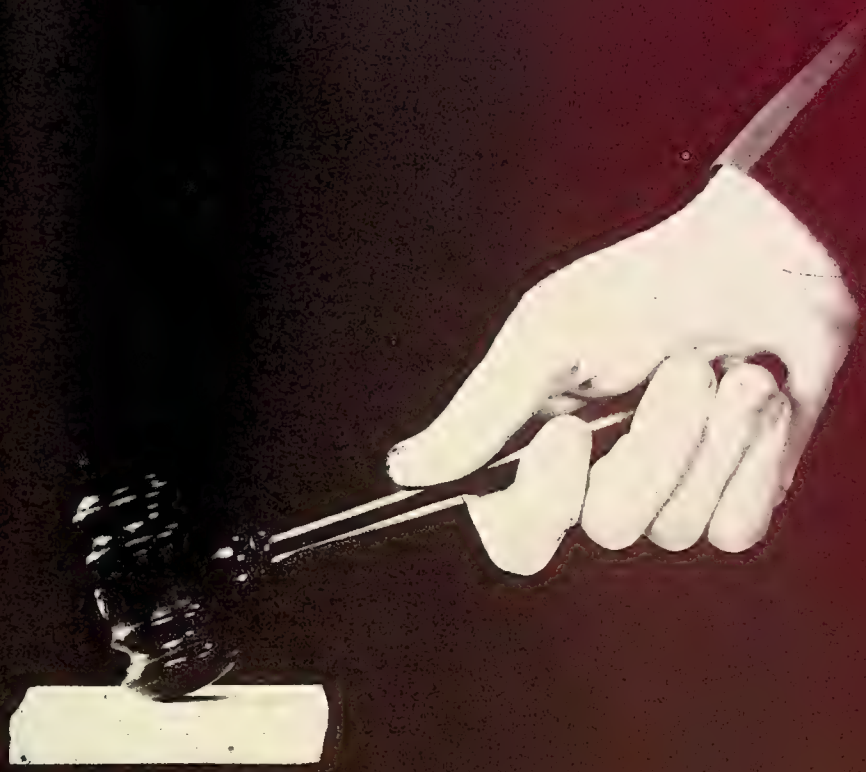
First row, left to right: Harley Wagoner, Frankie Steed, Glenn Pyles, Ernest Snyder, Gary Kenney, Edward Willison, Kenny Harper, Billy Price, Johnny Tipping. Second row: Frances Abe, Rosetta Keplinger, Barbara Bauer, Ruth Liller, Bertha Pownell, Ella Mae Thompson, Charlotte Getz, Carol Jean Getz, Judy Wagoner. Third row: Donna Hershberger, Irene Iman, Mary Ellen Snyder, Nancy Pyles, Blanche Bosley, Joyce Wolford, Beverly Myers, Janet Newhouse. Fourth row: Mr. Melvin McKenzie, homeroom teacher, Bernard Long, Larry Troutman, Wayne Shreve, Charles Riggelman, Dean Wasson, Gary Riley, Larry Brown, Arthur Rexrode.



## *Seventh Grade*

First row, left to right: Robert Holloway, Douglas Kenney, Dale Lease, James Steed, Marshall Rhodes, Douglas Wolford, Dale Dennison, Arnold French, Garry Shanholtz, Carole Miller. Second row: Gerald Lewis, Freddie Adams, Edgar Barnes, Jerry Pownell, June Haines, Judy Dennison, Mary Lou Coleman, Carol Jean Hepner, Barbara Smith, Sandra Kenney, Nancy Brooks, Wanda Twigg, Helen Spencer, Beth Shreve, Darline Kesner. Third row: Steve Adams, Patty McCoy, Norma Allen, Janet Adams, Timmy Adams, Roger Simpson, Grady Knapp, Billy Hinkle, Raymond Abe, Grace Kesner, Marie McMahon, Rosa Reel, Mrs. Laura Marks, homeroom teacher.





**ORGANIZATIONS**



# Office Staff



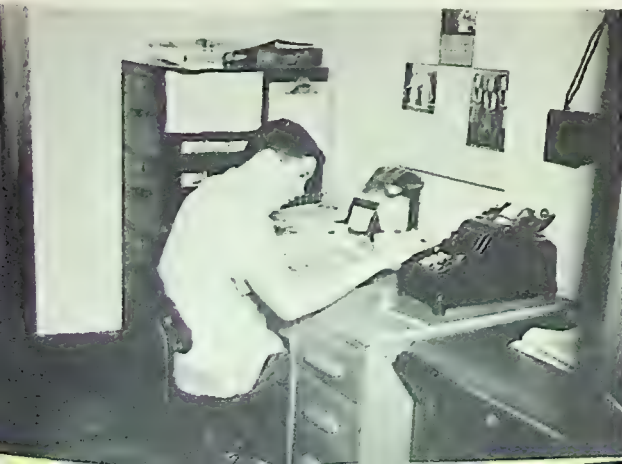
Eddie Linn, Freshman, helps Mr. Marker in the office in the mornings. He types and distributes the absence list to each home room.



Arthur Dayton puts in his time by selling candy and ice cream to the students at noon. The bookstore is his domain, and from the looks of this picture, he is doing a good job.

Joe Dersin enjoys being an office boy, or so it seems. He assists Mr. Marker in adding the monthly records, and counting the money. He is in the office from 12:30 to 2:30.

Barbara Dayton gives Mr. Judy her help during the 2:30 period. She does various jobs for him, and is very handy at keeping the permanent record files in a neat order.





# Student Council

The Student Council, which has been active for the past five years, got off to a good start this year with Mr. Virgil Hull as their sponsor for his second time.

Three members from each of the Senior-high grades, and two each from the Junior-high grades make up the Council, which is our governing body.

The Student Council sponsors the Citizen of the Month election to help develop the character of our students.

The Student Council was organized in our school six years ago by Mr. Thomas Small.



Featured here is the board made by Vice President, Harold Abe, on which there is a picture of each Citizen of the Month and the Citizen of the Year.



The officers were elected by the student body in the spring of '54, and are: Left to right—Mr. Hull, sponsor; Arthur Dayton, president; Kay Jean Milleeson, secretary-treasurer; and Harold Abe, vice president.

The Student Council members are discussing the school problems in this meeting. They are, left to right: Delores Rotruck, Larty Troutman, Delores Davis, Dale Dennison, Donna Hershberger, Carol Jean Hepner, Kay Jean Milleeson, Secretary and Treasurer; Mr. Hull, Sponsor; Arthur Dayton, President; Harold Abe, Vice President; William Iman, Donald Milleeson, Barbara Dayton, and Etta Mae Singhass.





# Future Homemakers of America

MRS. LOIS McMILLION  
*Chapter Advisor*



PATRICIA ROSSKAMP  
*President*



WANDA BOHRER  
*Vice President*  
CAROLYN SAMPSON  
*Second Vice President*



DARLENE HIETT  
*Third Vice President*

BARBARA CLARK  
*Parliamentarian*



LAURETTA McTAGGART  
*Treasurer*

SHELIA SPEELMAN  
*Secretary*

JANICE WELCH  
*Historian*







The offices of the Future Farmers Club are filled very competently by these Sophomore, Junior, and Senior boys. Seated left to right are: Bob Foster, Secretary; Dean Kenney, Parliamentarian; Harry Bosley, President; Loren Bosley, Sentinel; Jerry Lease, Reporter; Wayne Bohrer, Treasurer; and Arthur Dayton, Vice President.



Mr. Fout is explaining the solution of a problem to one of his classes. Listening as he explains are: Left to right—William Iman, Wendall Wagoner, Bernard McTaggart, Gordon Moore, John Seeders, Jim Lark, Donnie Wyer and David Sutton. To the left is Larry Brown. In front are Mr. Fout and Rodney Bosley.



These boys take Vocational Agriculture in the afternoon under the direction of Mr. Lawrence Fout. They are: Left to right—Front row: Bob Foster, Bob Lee, Larry Brown, William Iman, Rodney Bosley, Edgar Kimble, David Sutton, John Dale Logsdon, and Nelson Long. Second row: Mr. Fout, Arthur Dayton, Harry Bosley, Loren Bosley, Wayne Bohrer, Jerry Lease, Paul Chaney, Gordon Moore, Dean Kenney, John Seeders, Wendall Wagoner, Bruce Bosley, James Lark, Bernard McTaggart, and Donnie Wyer.

The Morning Vo-Ag class is composed of nine boys, and is also under the direction of Mr. Lawrence Fout. They are: Left to right—Front row: Danny Watts, Herbert Bosley, Garcey Moore, Howard Barnes. Second row: Carroll Lease, Tommy Riley, Jack Oates, Donnie Davis, Mr. Fout, and Charles Abe.







Shown here are some very important men in our school organization. Without them we would have a pretty hard time getting to school. Our bus drivers are: left to right—Mr. Glenn Judy, Mr. Floyd Wagoner, Mr. Marvin Biser, Mr. Clarence Kesner, Mr. Guy Adams, and Mr. Dan Whitacre.



Here is our cook, Mrs. Dorothy Evans, as she is preparing some food for the hot lunch program. Mrs. Evans is assisted in the kitchen by Mrs. Lois McMillion, home economics teacher, and the girls and boys in cafeteria class. Mrs. Evans has been our cook for fourteen years.



Who's this? Why it's Mr. Kenney Ratcliff, our custodian. His friendly face can be seen in the halls as he performs his task of keeping our school building in tip-top condition. Mr. Ratcliff is also called upon to do many other little errands in the course of his day at Fort Ashby High.

Hurry, hurry, it's almost lunch time. Shown here as they do their various jobs are the cafeteria staff; left to right—Mrs. Lois McMillion, Nancy Baldwin, Mrs. Evans, Edgar Kimble, Merla Whitacre, Shirley Bosley, Ruth Border, Irene O'Brien, Patty Smith, and Orvil Hart.







**ATHLETICS**



# Varsity Basketball Team



Left to right: Charles Baldwin, Joe Dersin, Wayne Bohrer, Harry Bosley, Bob Chase, John Hepner, James Thompson, Harold Haines, Vaughn Alt, and Eddie Linn. Co-captains kneeling in front, Arthur Dayton and Robert Kenney.

## SCHEDULE

Team	W	L
Paw Paw	59	38
Beall	56	49
Bruce	36	44
Romney	51	48
Ridgeley	38	58
Alumni	55	39
Elk Garden	38	42
Capon Bridge	81	39
Piedmont	45	35
Paw Paw	70	35
Ridgeley	47	67
Keyser	42	51
Romney D&B	48	42
Romney	41	37
Capon Bridge	47	44
Bruce	63	74
Romney D&B	62	38
Wardensville	66	46
Elk Garden	50	53
Piedmont	50	67
Keyser	56	61

This season the Eagles played under our new coach, Mr. Quentin Sayers of Keyser. The Varsity team finished the season with a total of twelve wins and nine losses, which does not count the games played in the sectional tournament. The Eagles held fifth place in the fourteen team Potomac Valley Conference, with eight wins and seven defeats. In the Mineral County League, we were not so fortunate, having a total record of one win and seven losses.

The Eagles scored 1,098 points to their opponents' 1,008 during the season. Artie Dayton was top man in this category with 322 points, followed by Bob Kenney scoring 272. Next in line were Harry Bosley, 182; Harold Haines, 174; and Vaughn Alt, 96.

The 16 Sectional Class "B" Tournament held Feb. 24, 25, 26, at Potomac State Gym., found the Eagles in the first round meeting the Blackhawks of Ridgeley. After playing a good aggressive, sharpshooting ball game throughout, lost to the score of 40-38. The second night the Eagles fought their way to the finals by defeating Elk Garden by the decisive score of 50-40, which put them into third place by defeating Romney Deaf 62-53.

As a result of gaining third place honors the Eagles were presented a trophy. Robert Kenney had the honor of being placed on the All-Tournament team and received a trophy.



# *Varsity Line-Up*



ARTHUR DAYTON



ROBERT KENNEY



HAROLD HAINES

COACH SAYERS

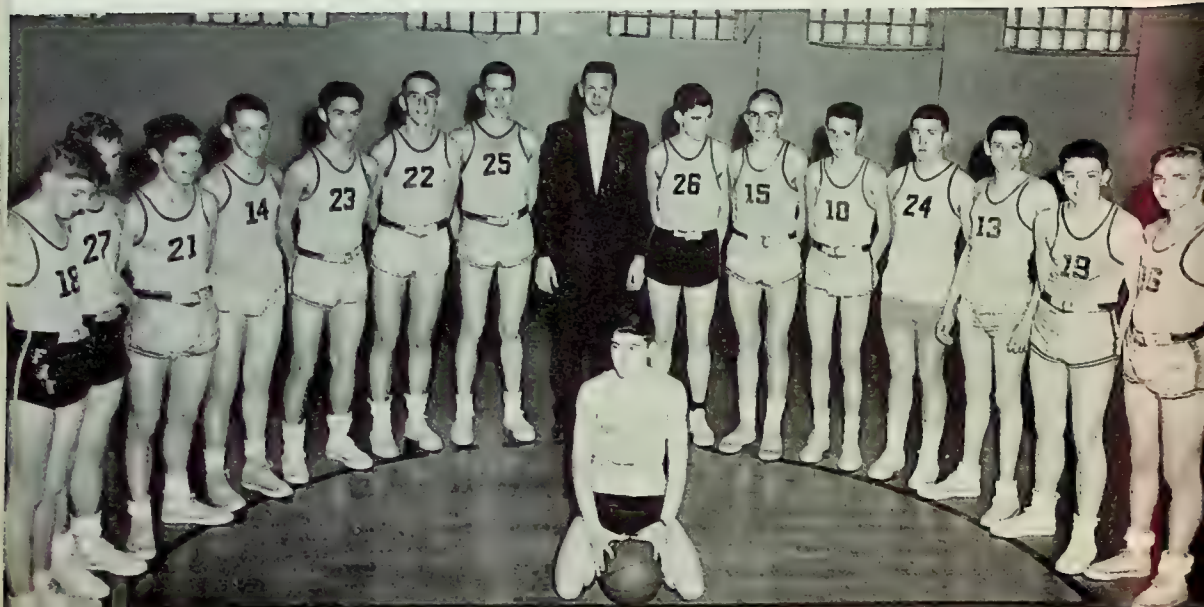
VAUGHN ALT

HARRY BOSLEY





## *Junior Varsity Basketball Team*



Left to right: Orvin Wagoner, Paul Chaney, Bob Lee, Dean Kenney, Walter Abe, Nelson Long, Jerry Lease, Coach Sayers, Keith Martin, Sam Barnes, Kenneth Chase, Jerry Adams, David McCullough, Evers McCoy, and Jerry Logsdon. Center: Harold Abe, Captain.

## *Junior High Basketball Team*



First row, left to right: Johnny Tipping, Gary Isner, Captain, and Don Milleson. Second row: Gary Riley, Douglas Wolford, Jimmy Steed, Gary Shanholtz, James Boyland, Frankie Steed, and Arnold French. Third row: Timmy Adams, Dean Wasson, Danny Watts, Glenn Pyles, Coach Sayers, Bernard Long, Allen Hockaday, Raymond Abe, and Lee Rexrode





Imogene Hershberger, Captain; Janice Welch, Pat Rasskamp, Darlene Hiatt.



## *Cheerleaders*

Nannie Singhass, Delores Rotruck, Donna Hershberger, Nancy Dereemer, Captain.





FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS - SEE REVERSE SIDE





**ACTIVITIES**



# Basketball Dance

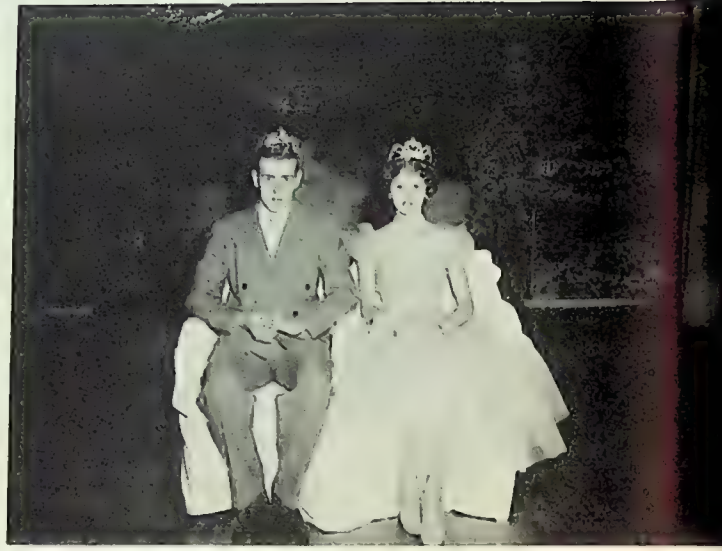
The second annual Basketball Dance was held in the school gymnasium on January 28. The dance was sponsored by the Senior High Cheerleaders for the purpose of raising funds.

Mr. Quentin Sayers, basketball coach, crowned Miss Imogene Hershberger and Robert Kenney the second Queen and King of Basketball.

The stage was the scene of the crowning, and it was decorated in the school colors, maroon and gold. A silver moon illuminated the background.

Music for the occasion was provided by a piano and drum duet. Several school songs were sung in honor of the King and Queen and their court by Miss Merla Whitacre.

Announcer was Miss Jannis Timbrook.



King Robert Kenney, and Queen Imogene Hershberger.

Members of the court are, left to right: Pat Roskamp and Harry Bosley, Darlene Hiatt and Vaughn Alt, Mary Lou Kenney and Cathy Welch. Flower Girls; Randy Brown, Crown Bearer; Janice Welch and Harold Haines. Carol Kennedy and Bob McElwee, Representatives from Keyser High School.





## Drivers' Education Class



Members of the drivers' education class, left to right—Front row: Lenora Umstot, Dorothea Twigg, Arlene O'Brien, Carolyn Sampson, Wilda Spencer, Shirley Long, Barbara Dayton, Shirley McTaggart, Bonnie Thompson, and Betty Lewis. Second row: Shirley Kimble, Shirley Miner, Bill Root, Martha Seeders, Harold Haines, Mary Jane Riley, Jim Thompson, Delores Price, Gary Sommerlott, Wanda Bohrer, Junior Umstot, Mary Ellen Snyder, Dorothy Sampson, Merla Whitacre, Pat Roskamp, Lauretta McTaggart, Mr. Thomas Small, Mineral County drivers' education instructor, and Mr. Quentin Sayers, classroom instructor.

Pictured here is the car used in a demonstration that was given by the Farm Bureau Insurance Company.

Viewing the demonstration were the faculty and students from Fort Ashby High, and the drivers education class from Ridgeley High School.



## Library Staff

The library is always busy with an unending job of "checking in" and "checking out" books. Behind the scenes are the tasks of repairing and cataloging books, typing and filing cards.

To add more books to the shelves Mrs. Grace Lucas, librarian, and her assistants, sponsored a book

drive. The outcome was a real satisfaction to students who participated because some 400 books were donated. Shown here as they are hard at work cataloging the new books are Truman Householder, Mrs. Lucas, Nancy Baldwin and Bob Kenney.





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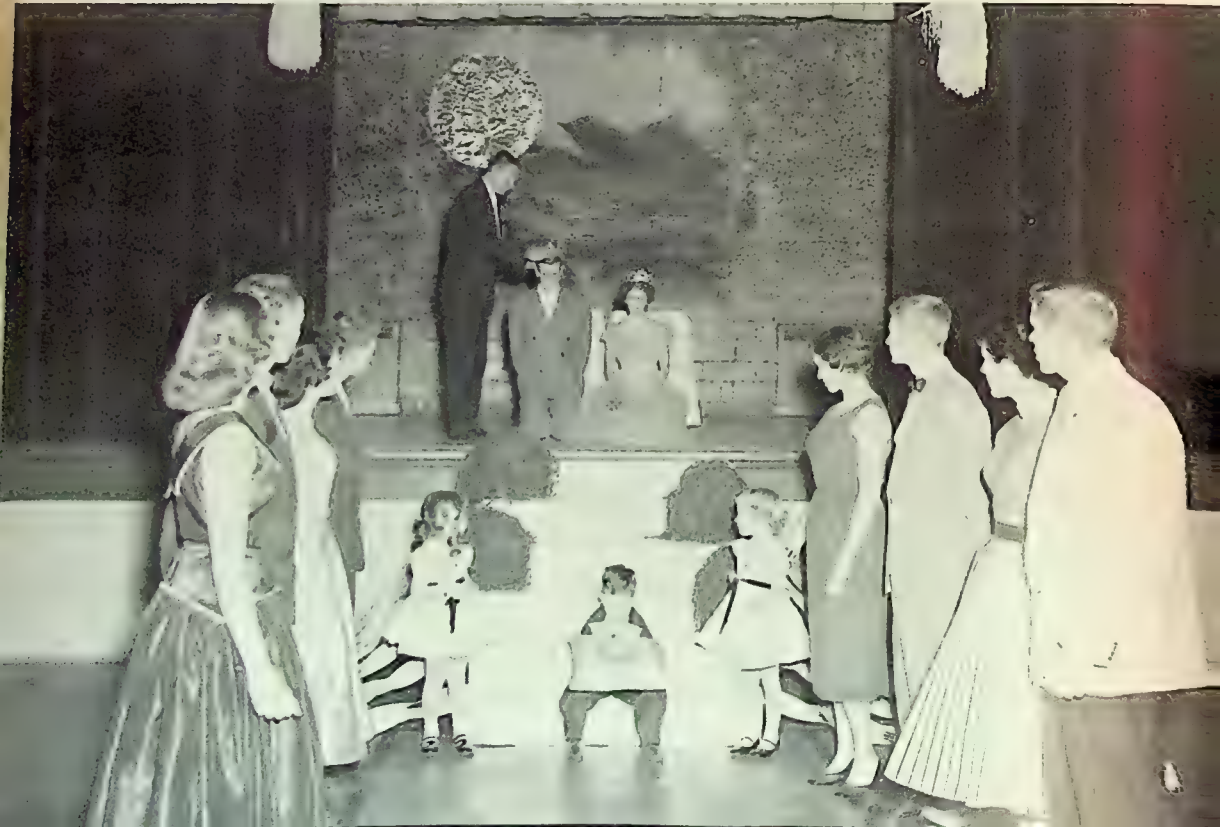
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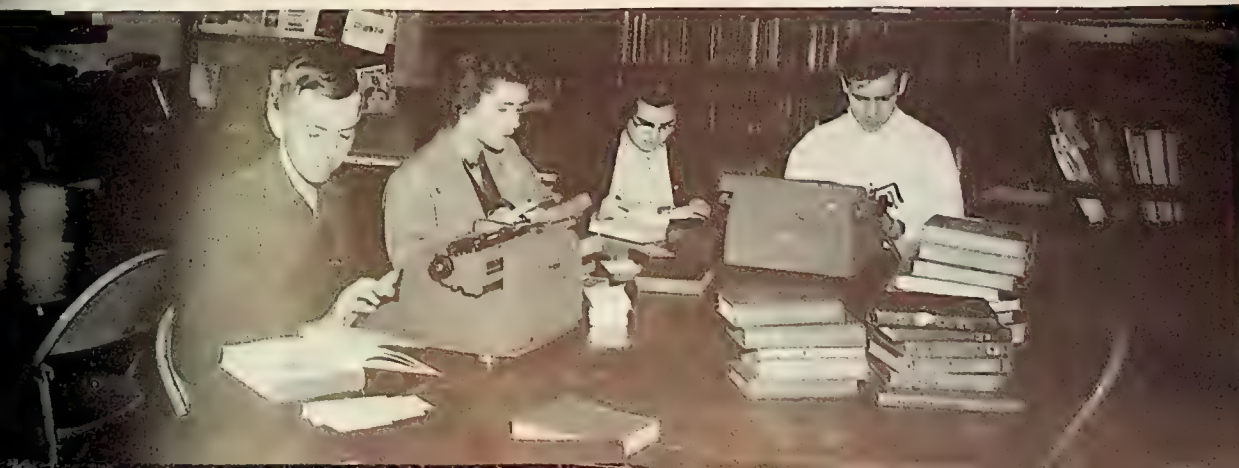


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# *Class Activities*



Sophomore Home Nursing Class



Typing Class



Eighth Grade Science Class



French Class



Chemistry Class Visits Celanese



Psychology Class



Advanced Home Economics Class



Seventh Grade Science Class



# Activity Clubs



School Improvement Club, Mr. Fout, Sponsor



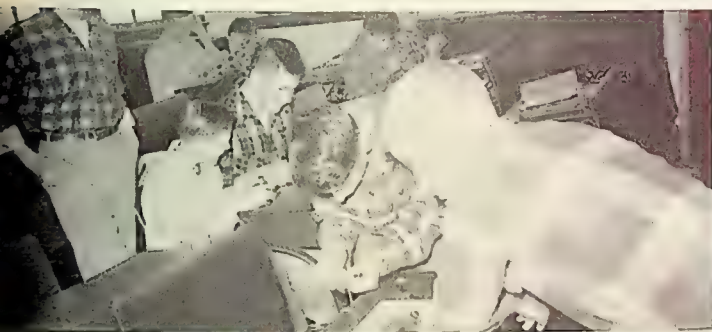
Science Club, Mr. Keplinger, Sponsor



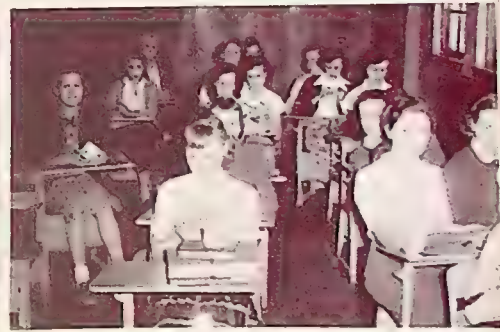
Crafts Club, Mrs. McMillion, Sponsor



Audio-Visual Club, Mr. McKenzie, Sponsor



Science Club—Tying flies, Mr. Keplinger, Sponsor



Crocheting Club, Mrs. Marks, Sponsor



Art Club, Mr. Hull, Sponsor



Folk-Dancing Club, Mr. Rogers and Sayers, Sponsors

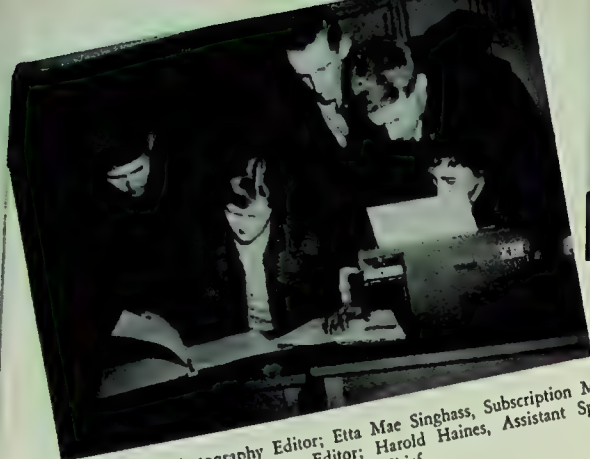












Bob Foster, Photography Editor; Etta Mae Singhass, Subscription Manager; Wayne Bohrer, Sports Editor; Harold Haines, Assistant Sports Editor; and Barbara Dayton, Editor-in-Chief.



Yearbook Advisor—J. W. MARKER. Class Sponsors — V. HULL and L. FOUT.

## Fortress Staff

Dum-da-dum-dum. This is the school, Fort Ashby High. I work here. My name is Yearbook Staff. Early in September we started working on the case of the FORTRESS. Our job—sell ads, collect boosters, construct the yearbook, and to sell subscriptions. The first of October found us at several business establishments saying, "We just want the ads, ma'm, just the ads." All through the winter months the case proceeded. Finally the break came, all ads were sold, boosters were in, and subscriptions sales were high. On February 28 the big day arrived . . . the deadline!

With a few last minute preparations, the yearbook was tried and convicted to a life sentence in your home where it is now serving its term.

The officers working on the case are shown on this page and all names have not been changed to protect the guilty.



Harry Bosley, Advertising Manager; Arthur Dayton, Assistant Editor; Pat Rosskamp, Booster Manager; Lauretta McTaggart, Activities Editor; and Loren Bosley, Assistant Activities Editor.



Bill Root, Assistant Booster Manager; Wanda Bohrer, Assistant Advertising Manager; Imogene Hershberger, Assistant Subscription Manager; and Bob Kenney, Assistant Photography Editor.

There were times we thought  
we wouldn't,  
But we finally got it done,  
It took a lot of effort,  
But we had a lot of fun.  
Here it is . . . we hope  
you like it!!!  
We're done! ! !







**ADVERTISERS**



# PATRONS-BOOSTERS- ADVERTISERS

We, the seniors of Fort Ashby High School Class of '55, wish to express our deep appreciation to the Boosters, Advertisers and other patrons in helping us publish our yearbook, "The Fortress."

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Mr. and Mrs. Russell Adams  
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Adams  
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Mr. and Mrs. John Armentrout  
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A Friend  
A Friend  
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good appearance . . .

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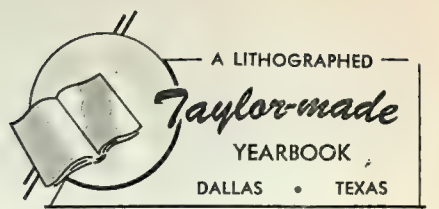
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# "Kay Beats the Band"

The Junior Class presented their play, "Kay Beats the Band," on March 24, in the high school gymnasium. Mr. Albert L. Rogers directed the play, and he was assisted by the two junior class sponsors, Mrs. Grace Lucas, who served as production manager, and Mr. K. B. Keplinger, who acted as stage manager.

The new public address amplifiers were used for the first time for the night performance, and the speaking parts were heard very clearly.



"Don't spill that stuff on me!" cries Dean Kenney as he is doused with some of the "Super-Duper Judy Meredith Perfume" by Barbara Clark, as Jim Thompson looks on worriedly.

The entire cast is assembled for this scene where the mystery man, G. T. Ellison, alias Dudley Harvard Smith (played by Harold Abe) finally comes out of the bedroom where he has been locked all day, much to the surprise and fright of the rest of the cast.



## CAST OF CHARACTERS

JOHN HEPNER .....	Phil Hunter
DARLENE HIETT .....	Kay Meredith
JIM THOMPSON .....	Steve Woodward
JANICE WELCH .....	Lois Andrews
DEAN KENNEY .....	Tom Nolan
HAROLD ABE .....	G. T. Ellison
LORETTA BLAUCH .....	Miss Denney
BARBARA CLARK .....	Judy Meredith
SHIRLEY HAYES .....	Bessie Trotter
SHEILA SPEELMAN .....	Madeline Ross





John Hepner, September; Barbara Clark, October; Harold Abe, November; Wilda Spencer, December; Etta Mae Singhass, January; Darlene Hiett, February; Sammy Umstot, March; Arthur Dayton, April; and Kay Jean Milleson, May. Also shown is Virgil Hull, Student Council sponsor.

## *Citizens of the Month*



*Citizen of the Year*  
BARBARA CLARK

## *Career Day*

April 15, the Student Council and Guidance Department sponsored the third annual Career Day. Representatives from the following vocations attended: Home Economics, Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, Agriculture and Forestry, Retailing, Beauty Culture, Celanese Corp., Nursing, Ministry, Telegraph Operating, Television and Radio, Catherman's Business School, and Scouting and other social work.

After the discussions and assembly, the guests were given a tea by the Home Ec girls.







### *Miss Fortress the Seventh*

Miss Patricia Rosskamp was crowned Miss Fortress VII by J. P. Judy, principal, at 9:00 p.m., at the Fortress Ball, April 22, in the Fort Ashby Auditorium.

Miss Rosskamp was chosen by popular vote of the student body. Robert Kenney was the Queen's escort. Imogene Hershberger was maid of honor and Vaughn Alt was her escort.

Princesses and escorts participated from the following high schools: Elk Garden, Keyser, Paw Paw, and Ridgeley.

Randy Brown was crown-bearer, and the two flower girls were Betty Jean Smith and Cathy Lou Welch. Lauretta McTaggart was the announcer.

After the crowning, Merla Whitacre sang "Melody of Love" in honor of the Queen and her court.



# May Day



Principal J. P. Judy is shown crowning Bonnie Thompson, May Queen. Members of the court from the senior class are, left to right: Harry Bosley, Imogene Hershberger, Wayne Bohrer, Arlene O'Brien, Harold Haines, Jannis Timbrook, Paul Brown, crownbearer, Mr. Judy, Miss Thompson, Loren Bosley, Dianne Brinkman and Melissa Brown, flower girls, Wanda Bohrer, Junior Umstot, Etta Mae Singhass, Vaughn Alt, Dorothea Twigg, Truman Householder.



Mrs. Price's fifth and sixth graders square dancing.



Mrs. Prysock's sixth grade class wrapping the May Pole.



The Rhythm Band, consisting of grades one to four, gave several numbers



# Junior-Senior Banquet and Prom

The Junior-Senior Banquet and Prom was held on Friday, May 13. The banquet was served in the auditorium of the elementary school, and the dance was held in the high school gymnasium.

Rev. A. L. Harmon gave the invocation at the banquet, and Robert Dayton, a former graduate, served as master of ceremonies. Poems were read by Janice Welch and Barbara Clark, and a duet, "April Showers," was sung by Twila and Wendall Wagoner. Group singing was led by Darlene Hiatt, accompanied by Ruth Beaver on the piano.

The theme for the Prom was "April Showers" and the gym was decorated in the class colors of pink and blue to carry out the theme. The orchestra was seated under a large rainbow, and a scene of lawn chairs enclosed by a white fence decorated the bleacher side of the gym. A pink and blue umbrella was centered on the blue cheesecloth ceiling.

Music was furnished by Ed and Pie's orchestra. Pictured below are some of the scenes from the Prom.





## Springtime Activities



The Future Farmers of America held their annual banquet May 18, in the auditorium. Installation of officers and presentation of plaques to the honorary members highlighted the program.



The track team had five track meets competing with Keyser, Ridgeley, Cresaptown, and Fort Hill schools. Members of the track team are, left to right: Bob Chase, Kenneth Chase, Allen Hockaday, Gary Isner, John Seeders, Bob Lee, Sam Barnes, Eddie Linn, Jerry Lease.



At a special assembly of the student body the Student Council installed officers for the '55-'56 year. New officers are: John Hepner, president; David McCullough, vice president; and Sammy Umstot, secretary-treasurer.



The Future Homemakers of America held their annual banquet April 29, in the auditorium. Introduction of guests, speeches by Mrs. McCoy and Patricia Rosskamp highlighted the program. Special number was presented by Wanda Bohrer and Lauretta McTaggart.



# Finale



Shown above are the seniors in the pantomime of the teachers.

Class night exercises were held on May 20, at 8:00 P.M. in the auditorium. Class history, class poem, class will, a pantomime, book burning and a quartet number were presented by the senior class. Awards were presented by Principal J. P. Judy.

The sermon to the graduates May 22, was given by Rev. H. W. Peters, of the Old Furnace Church of the Brethren. The Invocation and Benediction was given by Rev. A. L. Harmon of Trinity Methodist Church. Special numbers were presented by students of the senior class. The processional and recessional was played by Ruth Beaver.

Dr. Patrick Gainer of West Virginia University delivered the address to the graduating class. Diplomas were presented by James R. Fuller, Jr., member of the Mineral County Board of Education. The valedictory and salutatory addresses were given by Barbara Dayton and Harry Bosley. Special numbers were presented by the senior class. Awards were presented by J. P. Judy, J. William Marker and Raymond Adams.



Book Burning.



**CLASS NIGHT AWARD WINNERS**—Linda Marker, best all-around girl, grade 3; Nancy Pyles, best all-around girl, grade 8; Kay Milleson, typing and bookkeeping; Joan Dayton, typing; Barbara Clark, citizen of the year; Patricia Rosskamp, F.H.A.; Don Milleson, V.F.W. Essay; Bernard Long, V.F.W. History; and best all-around boy, grade 8; Keith Martin, chemistry award.



**SENIOR AWARD WINNERS**—First row, left to right: Etta Mae Singhass, Fort Ashby Lions Club award to Camp Horseshoe; Barbara Dayton, Merrells Scholarship and best all-around girl; Patricia Rosskamp, Merrells activities award. Second row: Harry Bosley, V.F.W. Scholarship; Arthur Dayton, Merrells athletic award, V.F.W. athletic trophy and P.T.A. best all-around boy award.











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